

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: John Harley

Serial No.: 07/867,819

Group Art Unit: 1813

Filed: April 13, 1992

Examiner: Caputa, A.

For: METHODS AND REAGENTS FOR DIAGNOSIS OF AUTOANTIBODIES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS
DEPUTY A/C PATENTS**

DECLARATION

Dear Sir:

I, Jeanette Stines-Hatcher, hereby declare that:

1. I became responsible for Arnall Golden & Gregory Patent Department's docket about the end of August, 1997. Shortly thereafter I created and printed an Outstanding Matters Docket which provided a listing of pending cases which did not have a current or future formality deadline. One of the cases identified on this printout was OMRF 114 CIP(2), U.S. Application No. 07/867,819.

2. When I checked the file on October 31, 1997, and reviewed the telephone message slip dated March 27, 1997, reflecting an Examiner's call to determine whether or not a response to the outstanding office action had been filed. I docketed the matter for a follow-up call on November 30, 1997. Periodic telephone checks with the Patent Office gave the status as pending with no new actions.

3. On August 11, 1998, I called the Patent Office status line and was advised that the application was in Group 1600. I called Group 1600 and was advised by the Group Clerk that the application was considered abandoned as of October 31, 1997. The Clerk recommended that we file a formal Status Request. The Status Request was filed on August 11, 1998.

4. Having still received no response to the Status Request, at our monthly docket meeting on November 24, 1998, Patrea Pabst asked that I docket weekly reminders regarding the

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status of this application and asked Kim Manson, an associate in the office, to see if we could get any additional information regarding the application.

5. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made by others are believed to be true. These statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements are punishable by fine or imprisonment under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.


Jeanette Stines-Hatcher

Dated: December 1, 1998
ARNALL GOLDEN & GREGORY LLP
1201 West Peachtree Street
2800 One Atlantic Center
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3450